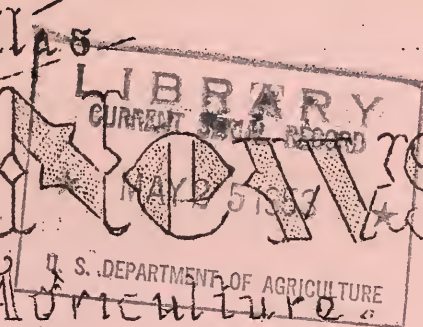


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USDA Club News

U.S. Department of Agriculture



Vol. V ** No. 4

APRIL, 1953

Dallas, Texas

Attractive Discount Counts Available.

Any USDA Club member can now buy a new car, steel fence, furniture, and electrical appliances at very good discounts. See your Credit Union officials for full particulars on any of the foregoing items.

Other important and welcome discounts are being worked on by Russell Vernon and his Employee Welfare Committee and all USDA members will be informed when details have been worked out.

It has been suggested by some members that a new up-to-date list of discount opportunities be published in the News. A new listing can not be published until the Welfare Committee has had the opportunity to check over the old ones, and it has been so busy working on the ones just announced it has not been able to certify which of the old firms will still allow discounts. Meanwhile, to the old, "good-bye", the new, "Good Buy."

USDA Club Votes Changes In Honor Awards.

For the past several months the Work of The Department Committee Chairman has been urging USDA members to send in their nominations for "Member of the Month" awards. These urgings have produced little in the way of tangible results.

In accordance with the Board of Director's recommendations President Howard Martin recently appointed a Special Committee composed of Mr. John W. Bolish, Mr. Fred J. Faust, and Mr. Wendell P. Pickering to review the present system of selecting honor members of the month, and recommend any change they felt necessary to make these citation awards again an active effective USDA Club program.

This Special Committee under the chairmanship of Mr. Pickering turned in their findings at the last Board meeting held at the YWCA April 8. In its report the committee concluded that the qualifying standards for Member of the Month were too high; it suggested that they be used as a basis of selecting the "Man (or Woman) of the Year" but not be used for any interim citations. The Committee recommended that the Member of the Month awards be abolished and in their stead any deserving, outstanding USDA members be cited or singled out for "HONORABLE MENTION" with time as a factor being eliminated. (This last would allow any number of eligible members to receive the honor at any time at the Board's option).

(Page 2, please...)

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We as members of the Civil Service accept our obligation and our opportunity to serve the American people well and in full measure doing our best to further the free and democratic institutions of our country. We believe it is our duty to: Carry out loyally the will of the people as expressed in our laws; serve the public with fairness, courtesy, integrity, and understanding; help improve the efficiency, economy, and effectiveness of our work...and thus to do our part in performing the great services of the government—Adopted Federal Personnel Council 19

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USDA CLUB VOTES CHANGES IN HONOR AWARDS (From 1)

This recommendation by the Committee was put to a vote and carried unanimously. The Committee further recommended the following qualifying standards to be used as a basis of selection for the "Honorable Mention" awards:

1. All-round good service as a Federal employee with special consideration given to
 - a) Outstanding acts or services within the USDA Club program of activities; OR
 - b) Performance of civic activities of such a nature as to reflect credit on Federal employees in general or the Department of Agriculture in particular.

The Committee also suggested that in placing nominations before the Board the Work of the Department Committee be guided by the following prerequisites:

1. The person nominated should be a "good" employee in the sense of there being nothing uncomplimentary in his personal or private life that would cast reflection on his selection. His agency supervisor should be checked for okay as to character, conduct, reputation and general attitude.
2. He shall have some interest in USDA Club activities and affairs, but not necessarily as an officer, director, or committee member.
3. The foregoing factors, or the award itself, are not intended to replace or conflict with present Departmental programs for recognizing employee ability, length of service, or superior accomplishment in performance of their regular job.
4. Each employee voted the Honorable Mention award by the Board shall be recognized by an appropriate article in the USDA News.

The foregoing suggestions and recommendations were adopted by unanimous vote of the Board of Directors. President Martin voiced the hope that Mr. Pickering's committee would receive a lot of nominations from USDA members. He thanked the Special Committee for bringing in its comprehensive, constructive report:

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Those "Smoky Bear" cartoons seen in newspapers and car cards advising vacation campers to be careful of fire in the woods are the work of Harry Rosoll, poster specialist in the Atlanta office (Region 8) of the U.S. Forest Service. In the Department since 1937, "Smoky" is his most popular character creation, and has probably done more to make campers "fire-safety" conscious than any bear anywhere.

Did You Know...

...That insects take an annual damage toll of over \$4,000,000,000.00?...That 80,000 different species of insects take this 4-billion dollar total?

.....That the Budget Bureau reported that in fiscal year 1952, 170,000 suggestions received over a million dollars in awards, saving the government \$32,000,000.00?

.....That the electrons composing this sheet you're holding, have moved, since you began reading this sentence, a distance equal to that from New York to Tokyo? (You didn't see it move? Shux, Farmer Brown couldn't see the wind in the cyclone but he was dang nigh convinced it'd been there after it left—taking his barn into the next county).

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CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION HAS NEW BOSS.

President Eisenhower has appointed Philip Young as Chairman of the Civil Service Commission, replacing Robert Ramspeck, who resigned. Mr. Young will probably be the strongest chairman in history, as he will act as the President's personnel representative and will sit in on all cabinet meetings. Chairman Young, 42, dean of Columbia's graduate school of business, has had considerable government experience. He was with the Securities Exchange Commission from 1931 to '38; Treasury Dept. to '41 and the Office of Lend Lease until 1944 when he joined the Navy. In 1948 he joined the faculty at Columbia U.

The USDA Club News is published monthly at 912 South Ervay, fifth floor, Lowich Building. Send all news contributions to that address, or telephone the editor, ST-5611, Ext. 2044.

Want-ads welcome but
keep'em brief!

James L. (Jimmy) Hyles,
EDITOR.

...S H O R T - S H O R T S

ADMINISTRATIVE:...PRESTON RICHARDS, newly appointed Assistant Administrator for Commodity Operations, PMA, has been in the Department of Agriculture about 20 years.....E. M. Norton, succeeding Preston Richards as Director of PMA Dairy Branch, joined the USDA in 1934, with AAA. He became Assistant and Director of the Dairy Branch in 1948.....Donald A. Williams, new Chief of Agricultural Conservation Program Office, entered Federal service in 1935. It will be recalled that Agricultural Conservation Program was very recently transferred from the PMA agency.....K.P. EWING, who now heads the Division of Insects (affecting cotton and other fibers) in the BEPQ, must have gotten very familiar with a lot of insects during his 32 years with that agency. While he was stationed in Waco in 1950 he was named Texas Man of the Year by the Progressive Farmer magazine.....

LEGISLATIVE:.....A bill introduced by Congressman Withrow of Wisconsin, would give federal employees a day off for holidays falling on Saturdays. This year Memorial Day and Independence Day fall on that day. The Gov- (See Next column please)

NATIONAL U S D A AWARDS COMMITTEEMEN NAMED

The following names have been announced by Secretary Benson as his selection for the 1953 Distinguished Service Awards Committee Members:

Richard D. Aplin, Director Departmental Administration, USDA; John Bird, Associate Editor of Country Gentleman; Dr. P. V. Cardon, Director USDA Graduate School; Dr. R. B. Corbett, Agricultural Counsel, National Association of Food Chains; Russell I. Thackrey, Executive Sec'ty-Treasurer, Association of Land-Grant Colleges and Universities; and T. Roy Reid, Director of Personnel, U. S. D. A.

Members of the Superior Service Awards Committee are: Paul V. Kepner, Assistant Director, Extension Work, USDA; James A. Keane, State Director, FHA, Bozeman, Montana; A.E. McClymonds, Regional Director SCS, Lincoln, Nebraska; Sterling R. Newell, Ass't. Chief Agricultural Estimates, B.A.E. Ruth O'Brien, Ass't Chief Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics; Dr. Harry C. Trologan, Ass't. Research Administrator, A.R.A. and T. Roy Reid, Director of Personnel, Department of Agriculture.

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P L E N T I ' U L F O O D S F O R A P R I L

The big noise in plentiful foods for April is being made by cabbages, tomato juice, Oranges, beef broilers, frozen fish, eggs, Irish potatoes and hens. Stores will especially feature raisins the middle of May, but bargains in this nutritious staple are being offered now. Another best buy is the many choice cuts of beef—"from soup-bones to T-bones", although prices have firmed a bit since the initial drop.

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S H O R T S — S H O R T S ...(From Column 1)
ernment Employees Council would like to see the same objective accomplished by executive order of the President.....If a bill introduced by Senator Olin Johnston, South Carolina, becomes law all CPC civil service classifications will be abolished and those presently holding that classification will be paid according to regional or local wage scales. Possible exceptions would be guards, messengers, fire-fighters, and some elevator operators who would be given a GS classification. Agriculture would not be affected as much as GSA and VA.....

JUDICIAL: According to a recent GAO decision an employee separated and receiving a lump sum payment of accrued leave and who is re-employed in a temporary position for less than 90 days is required to refund the unexpired portion of the leave payment and be credited with it during his tenure of re-employment, during which time it will be available for use

TWO USDA UNITS SCHEDULED TO MOVE FROM DALLAS SOON.

The Administrative Services division of the PMA Area Office, Dallas, is being abolished. So is its counterpart in San Francisco. The duties of both will be combined and taken over by one unit with headquarters in Denver, Colorado. This move will affect 22 employees in the Dallas section.

The Cotton and Cottonseed Products Section of the Dallas PMA Commodity Office is being transferred to the New Orleans Commodity Office. This section employs 75 persons.

Both moves are to be consummated by July 1.

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FEDERAL EMPLOYEES THIRST FOR KNOWLEDGE.

Who says Federal Employees are dullards? A recent survey of Dallas College enrollment (SMU's downtown branch) shows that the largest group of students consists of government employees.

Among the students are 67 from VA; 12 from BIR; and 48 from "other groups". This group includes a goodly sprinkling of USDA employees.

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NEW LOCATION FOR PMA PERSONNEL AND ASD EMPLOYEES

Since last week the new address of PMA's Area Personnel and Administrative Services Sections has been 3306 Main Street (the Holland Building). They formerly occupied space in the Interurban building. ((And the editor formerly—many years ago—worked in the Holland organization; packer, paper-tender, proof-reader, pressman—and pugilist. "Tiger Rose" we "were known as" in those days!))

* * * * *

SAY SOMETHING GOOD!

Pick out the folks you like the least
And watch'em for awhile:
They seldom speak a kindly word
Or flash a friendly smile;
They criticize their fellow man
'Most every chance they get--
They've never found a single one
Who meets their fancy yet!
From them I guess we'd learn some things--
If they were pointed out--
Some things that every one of us
Should know a lot about.
When someone "knocks" another
Pass around the "loving cup":
Say something good about him--
If you have to make it up!

* * * * *

The quickest way to do many things is to do one thing at a time.

Quotes

"Dallas Texas employees maintain one of the liveliest and most effective USDA Clubs dedicated to genuine service and welfare improvement.

Howard Martin, Area Finance officer for FMA, is president, and they have a board of 18 directors and several working committees busy all the time." From the USDA (Employees News Bulletin) Washington, March 11 issue; Editor, Elwood G. McIntyre.

* * * * *

The latest issue of "USDA Club Exchange" notes the varied activities of the Dallas chapter. Its front page carries greetings to all USDA Clubs from Secretary Benson, its final page an invitation from T. Ray Reid to "drop by" next time any officer or member is in Washington.

Dr. E.R. Draheim, Office of Personnel, in a personal letter to the Dallas chapter, notes that it is "doing a mighty fine job."

Since we know the officer directors and committeemen of the local club are a swell but "selfless" bunch of "folks" these nice pats on the back won't go to their heads and we are sure they are very much appreciated by all. (Incidentally, that poem to the left doesn't apply to any USDA Club member the editor knows--either in Dallas or D.C.)

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A. JERRY HOWARD WINS CUP.

A. Jerry Howard, FMA Area Finance employee, and modern disciple of Demosthenes was awarded a silver-plated cup for his recent "silver-tongue" speech before the Trinity Toastmaster's Club. More about this interesting club later.